

Claims 64-67, 69-70, 72-75, 77-78, 80-81, 83-84, 86-87 and 89-90 are currently pending in the instant application. These claims have been allowed. Claims 68, 71, 76, 79, 82, 85, 88 and 91-92 have been cancelled. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the now-cancelled subject matter in a continuation application.

The instant claims are believed in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action by the Examiner is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that issues may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned at (212) 415-8564.

AUTHORIZATION

No additional fee is believed to be necessary.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 2026-4205.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for

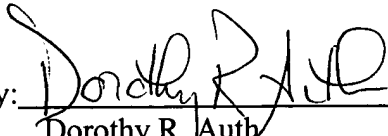
an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 2026-4205. A DUPLICATE
OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: February 9, 2000

By:


Dorothy R. Auth
Reg. No. 36,434

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